S1527-3
11/16/89

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR AUGUST 1989 OCTOBER 1989

D.C. Unemployment In August 5.0%

1988 Annual Pay in D.C. The Highest in the Nation

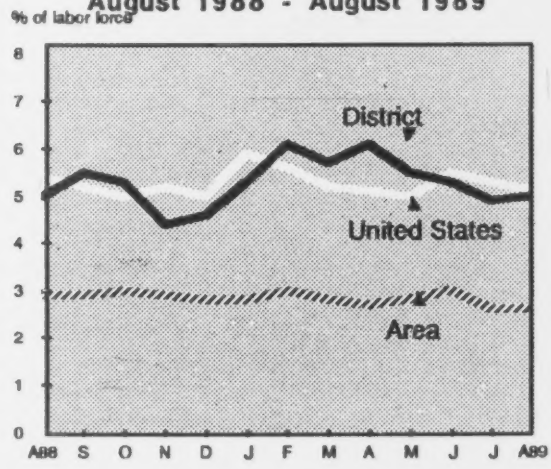
Labor Force

The District

The District's August unemployment rate rose slightly from 4.9 percent to 5.0 percent. A year ago, the rate was also 5.0 percent. The jobless rates in the suburbs and the Area remained unchanged at a very low 2.2 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively. Across the nation, the unadjusted August civilian unemployment rate was 5.1 percent. Thus, August marked the third consecutive month that the unemployment rate in the District has been below the nation's.

Between July and August, the District's labor force showed little movement. Approximately 600 new workers entered the labor force. An additional 100 residents were added to employer payrolls. As a result, the unemployment rolls added 400 idle workers. These relatively small changes, however, produced a tenth of a percentage point increase in the jobless rate. Through the first eight months of 1989, the District's unemployment rate has averaged 5.5 percent. The 1988 annual average rate was 5.0 percent. Thus, the employment status of District residents so far this year has deteriorated slightly when compared to last year. However, 1988 recorded the lowest annual rate in the District in over 17 years. Between 1971 and 1989, the unemployment rate in August has averaged 7.7 percent. So this year's rate is still significantly below the long-term average for the month and one of the lowest in over a decade and a half.

Unemployment Rates
August 1988 - August 1989



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Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The Department of Employment Services

Working to keep Washington working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR AUGUST 1989 — OCTOBER 1989

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson; and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling: (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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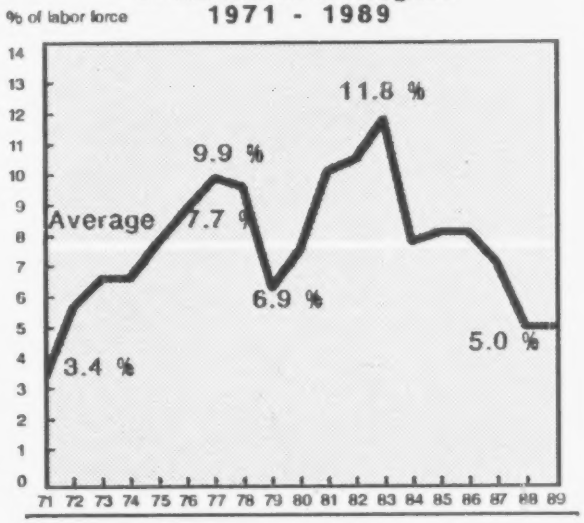
Compared to August 1988, there were 11,600 fewer District residents in the labor force and 11,000 fewer residents on payrolls. The unemployment rolls also declined by 600 persons. These are all proportional declines of about 3.4 percent. Over the year, however, many residents seem to have moved directly from a job to a total withdrawal from the labor force. These rather large over-the-year changes in labor force and employment may be a statistical signal of increasing discouragement among District residents.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of August 1971 - 1989



The Area & The Suburbs

Unlike in the District, the suburbs between July and August recorded a rather large decline of 25,600 persons in labor supply. The monthly decline was totally from employment, as the number of unemployed remained unchanged. These reductions, however, were not significantly large enough to produce a monthly change in the suburban unemployment rate, which at only 2.2 percent of the labor force continued to indicate a very tight labor market, one which also registered a significant half a percentage point drop in unemployment over the past year. The monthly suburban changes in August probably reflect a seasonal adjustment as students begin to quit their jobs to prepare for the new school year.

Compared to August of last year, there were 80,900 new suburbanites in the labor force—a strong growth of 4.3 percent. However, an even larger number of suburbanites, 87,800, found jobs between August 1988 and August 1989—a growth of nearly 4.8 percent. As a result of the larger yearly growth in employment, as compared to growth in the labor supply, the number of unemployed persons in the suburban jobless pool decreased by 7,000 to 44,400. However, seven of every ten unemployed persons in the Washington Area live in the suburbs.

In August, there were over 2.3 million Washington Area residents in the labor force and 2.2 million with jobs. Reflecting market trends in the suburbs, the over-the-year employment growth in the Area exceeded the growth in the labor

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Aug. a/ 1989	July b/ 1989	Aug. b/ 1988
District of Columbia	5.0	4.9	5.0
Calvert County	3.7	3.7	4.8
Frederick County	3.6	3.1	3.5
Prince Georges County	3.4	3.3	4.1
Charles County	2.8	2.9	3.7
Montgomery County	2.4	2.4	2.9
Alexandria City	1.9	1.9	2.3
Fairfax City	1.6	1.4	1.6
Prince William County	1.5	1.6	2.0
Arlington County	1.5	1.5	1.8
Stafford County	1.5	1.5	1.8
Fairfax County	1.4	1.4	1.8
Falls Church City	1.4	1.3	1.5
Manssas City	1.3	1.3	1.7
Loudoun County	1.3	1.3	1.5
Manassas Park City	1.2	0.9	1.8

a/ Preliminary.
b/ Revised.
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
August 1989[a]

	August[b] 1989	July[c] 1989	August[d] 1988	July[d] 1988	Net Change From July 1989	Net Change From August 1988
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	331,100	330,500	342,700	350,700	600	-11,600
Total Employed	314,600	314,500	325,600	335,800	100	-11,000
Total Unemployed	16,500	16,100	17,100	14,800	400	-600
Unemployed Rate[e]	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.2	0.1	——
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,975,600	2,001,200	1,894,700	1,912,500	-25,600	80,900
Total Employed	1,931,100	1,956,700	1,843,400	1,862,000	-25,600	87,700
Total Unemployed	44,400	44,400	51,400	50,600	——	-7,000
Unemployment Rate[e]	2.2	2.2	2.7	2.6	——	-0.5
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,306,700	2,331,700	2,237,400	2,263,200	-25,000	69,300
Total Employed	2,245,700	2,271,200	2,169,000	2,197,800	-25,500	76,700
Total Unemployed	60,900	60,500	68,500	65,400	400	-7,600
Unemployment Rate[e]	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.9	——	-0.5

a Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.
d. Data reflects Benchmark Revisions. e. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continued from page 3

supply. This produced a significant decline in the unemployment rate of half a percentage point. With unemployment at 2.6 percent, the Washington Area has the lowest unemployment rate and the tightest labor market of any major metropolitan area in the nation.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
August 1989 & August 1988
(Percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		August 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.4	14.0	27.1
Suburbs	85.6	86.0	72.9
		August 1988	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.3	15.0	25.0
Suburbs	84.7	85.0	75.0

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totaled 9,237 in August 1989—down 807 claimants from July. In August, 51 percent of all UI recipients were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 28 percent of the total claimants. This was followed by clerical and sales with 25 percent. Service workers ranked third accounting for 23 percent of claimants.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.0 weeks for all claimants in August. Over the month, the duration for males increased from 9.9 weeks to 10.0 weeks, while that for females also increased from 8.6 weeks to 9.8 weeks. In August 1988, the average duration for both males and females was 10.0 weeks.

Job Growth

The District

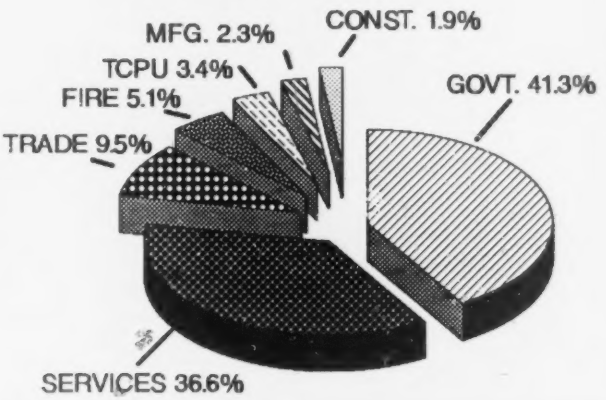
The number of jobs in the District decreased by 4,700 for a loss of 0.7 percent between July and August. The private sector accounted for 83 percent of the decline with losses primarily in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (2,400 jobs), Trade (800 jobs) and Services (500 jobs). The substantial loss in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities reflects the effects of a strike in the Communications industry.

The public sector declined by 800 jobs with a loss in Federal Government (1,500 jobs) partially offset by gains in State and Local Government (600 jobs).

Over the year (August 1988 to August 1989), the number of District jobs increased 1.6 percent for a gain of 10,900 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 2.9 percent, generating 11,500 jobs and accounting for all of the growth. The leading job producer, Services, contributed 12,000 jobs and essentially accounted for private sector growth. The major components of Services growth were Business Services (3,900 jobs), All Other Services (2,500 jobs), Legal Services (1,800 jobs), Hotels (1,600 jobs) and Health Services (1,500 jobs). An additional 1,800 jobs were generated by Wholesale and Retail Trade.

The public sector declined by 0.2 percent with losses in State and Local Government (3,200 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (2,400 jobs).

Distribution of District Jobs August 1989



The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs declined 0.7 percent for a loss of 11,700 jobs between July and August. The private sector accounted for 65 percent of the decrease with losses in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (5,400 jobs) and Services (1,500 jobs). A strike in the Communications industry was responsible for the substantial decline in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities. The Maryland suburbs were responsible for 76 percent of the loss in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities, while the Virginia suburbs accounted for two-thirds of the decline in Services.

In the public sector, declines in both Federal Government (600 jobs) and State and Local Government (3,400 jobs) resulted in a loss of 1.4 percent. Eighty-three percent of the decline in

Continued on page 6

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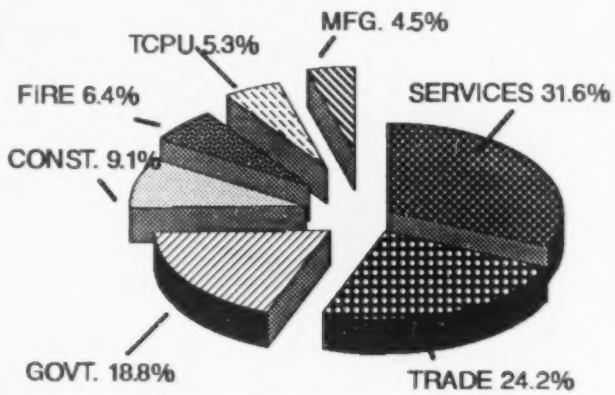
Federal Government and 62 percent of the loss in State and Local Government was attributable to the Virginia suburbs.

Over the year (August 1988 to August 1989), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 3.8 percent for a gain of 57,200 jobs. The Virginia suburbs grew at a rate of 6.2 percent accounting for 81 percent of suburban growth while the Maryland suburbs increased at a modest rate of 1.5 percent.

The private sector accounted for 83 percent of suburban growth with the major job producers, Services (25,300 jobs) and Trade (10,200 jobs), responsible for three-fourths of private sector growth. Eighty-four percent of the Services growth and 55 percent of the Trade growth occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 85 and 62 percent of the respective growth in Construction (8,500 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (5,300 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 3.5 percent with gains in both Federal Government (3,800 jobs) and State and Local Government (5,900 jobs).

Distribution of Suburban Jobs
August 1989



The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 16,300 jobs between July and August for a decline of 0.7 percent. The private sector was responsible for 70 percent of the decrease with losses primarily in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (7,800 jobs), Services (2,100 jobs) and Trade (1,900 jobs). The strike affecting the Communications industry was responsible for the significant decline in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities.

The public sector declined 0.8 percent with losses in both Federal Government (2,100 jobs) and State and Local Government (2,800 jobs).

Over the year (August 1988 to August 1989), the Area grew at a rate of 3.1 percent for a gain of 68,100 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 3.7 percent, generating 59,000 jobs and producing 87 percent of all new area jobs. The leading jobs contributor, Services (37,200 jobs), ac-

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- Resume Bank
- Labor Market Information

Department of Employment Services

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work [a/]
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Aug. [b/] 1989	Jul. [c/] 1989	Aug. [c/] 1988	Aug. [b/] 1989	Jul. [c/] 1989	Aug. [c/] 1988
TOTAL	**694.5**	**699.2**	**683.6**	**2,247.8**	**2,264.1**	**2,179.7**
Total Private Sector	**407.6**	**411.5**	**396.1**	**1,668.4**	**1,679.8**	**1,609.4**
Total Government	**286.9**	**287.7**	**287.5**	**579.4**	**584.3**	**570.3**
Manufacturing	**16.1**	**16.1**	**16.4**	**85.8**	**86.8**	**87.9**
Total Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.6	41.5	42.0
Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.5	3.6	3.5
Electrical & Electronic Machinery, Equip., & Supp.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.5	18.6	19.0
All Other Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.6	19.2	19.5
Total Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	45.1	45.4	45.9
Food & Kindred Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.8	4.8	4.8
Printing & Publishing	13.3	13.2	13.1	34.8	35.0	35.0
All Other Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.5	5.5	6.0
All Other Manufacturing	2.8	2.9	3.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**	**1.2**
Construction	**13.4**	**13.4**	**13.4**	**154.4**	**153.7**	**146.0**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.3**	**25.7**	**25.3**	**105.8**	**113.6**	**107.9**
Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.0	5.0	5.0
Transportation ex. Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	55.9	55.0	50.2
All Transportation	9.8	9.9	9.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communication & Public Utilities	13.5	15.8	15.7	44.9	53.5	52.7
Trade	**65.8**	**66.6**	**64.0**	**441.7**	**443.6**	**429.6**
Wholesale	9.3	9.4	9.1	77.3	77.5	76.6
Retail	56.5	57.3	54.9	364.4	366.0	353.0
General Merchandise	4.5	4.5	4.3	42.3	42.5	39.3
Food	N/A	N/A	N/A	49.5	49.0	47.6
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.6	39.5	40.0
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.4	27.3	27.5
Eating & Drinking Places	28.1	28.9	27.3	118.0	119.6	114.4
All Other Retail	23.9	23.9	23.3	87.7	88.0	84.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**35.1**	**35.1**	**35.0**	**134.7**	**134.3**	**129.4**
Banking	6.7	6.8	7.0	25.0	25.0	24.0
All Other	28.3	28.3	28.0	109.7	109.2	105.4
Services	**253.9**	**254.4**	**241.9**	**744.7**	**746.8**	**707.5**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	15.4	16.1	13.8	38.2	38.8	34.7
Personal Services	3.9	4.0	3.9	23.1	23.3	23.0
Business Services	59.1	58.4	55.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.3	6.2	5.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	36.8	36.7	35.3	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work [a/]
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Aug. b/ 1989	Jul. c/ 1989	Aug. c/ 1988	Aug. b/ 1989	Jul. c/ 1989	Aug. c/ 1988
Legal Services	29.4	29.7	27.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Membership Organizations	33.1	33.3	32.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Other Services	76.1	76.2	73.6	683.4	684.7	649.7
Government	**286.9**	**287.7**	**287.5**	**579.4**	**584.3**	**570.3**
Federal Government	223.4	224.9	221.0	369.3	371.4	363.1
State & Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	210.1	212.9	207.2
State & Local Gov. Except Public Transportation	58.2	57.6	61.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Transportation	5.2	5.2	4.9	N/A	NA	N/A

a. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.

Data includes all full- and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

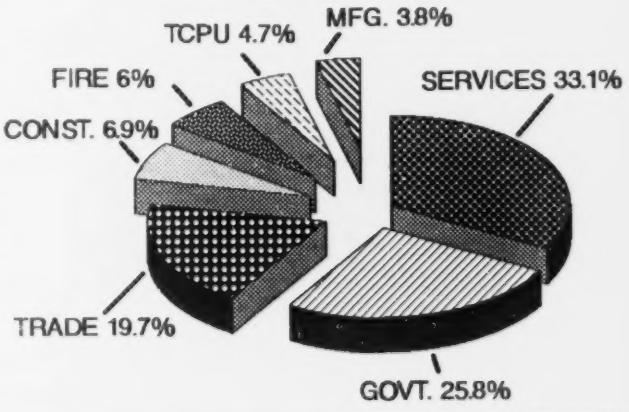
Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continued from page 6

counted for 63 percent of all new private sector jobs. Significant private sector growth was also produced by Trade (12,100 jobs), Construction (8,400 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (5,300 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.6 percent with growth in both Federal Government (6,200 jobs) and State and Local Government (2,900 jobs).

Distribution of Area Jobs
August 1989



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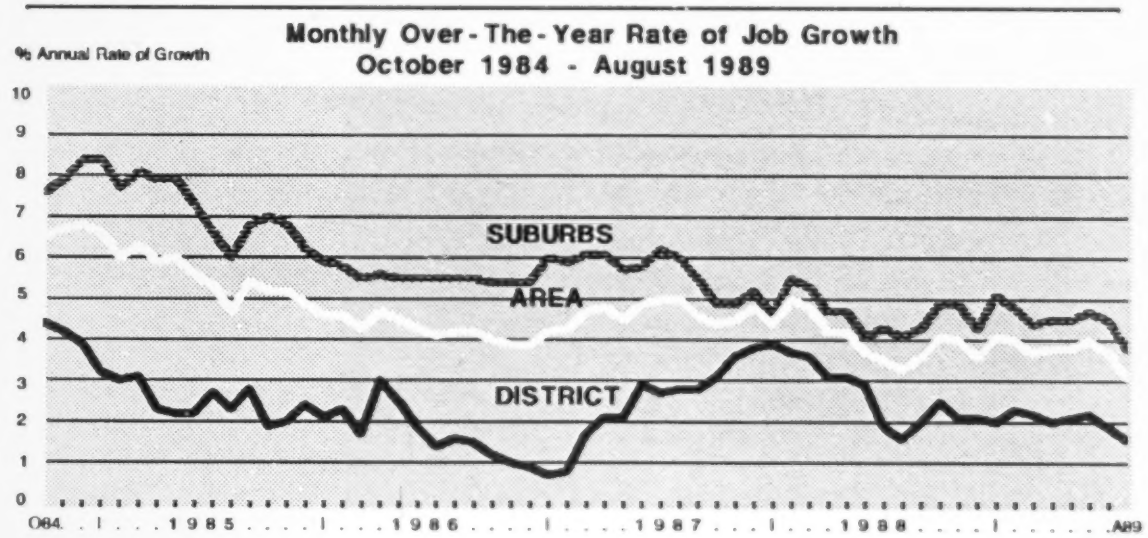

Area Job Growth Rate

Over the past 58 months, (October 1984 to August 1989), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 4.6 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has been steadily declining after peaking at 6.8 percent in December in 1984. Between August 1988 and August 1989, the Area's job growth slowed to 3.1 percent. The over-the-year rate this August was smaller than the 3.3 percent recorded in August of last year and the slowest over the year growth recorded in the 58 month series. It should be noted, however, that this over-the-year comparison reflects the August strike in the Communications industry.

The Suburban portion of the Area is still the generator of most new jobs, having grown over the past year at a rate of 3.8 percent, but at a much slower pace than its 58 month long-term average of 5.7 percent. Compared to the same period last year, growth was also slower than the 4.1 percent registered in August 1988. Over the past year, the District proper has added new jobs at a rate of 1.6 percent, but below its 58-month average of 2.4 percent. In August 1988, the annual job creation rate in the City was also 1.6 percent.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 86,900 new jobs produced between August 1984 and August 1985, to 68,100 between August 1988 and August 1989. Over the past year, 57,200 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy and 10,900 in the District. **The Washington Area continues to create new jobs at a faster pace than the U.S. economy (3.1 percent vs. 2.8 percent for the U.S. economy).**

Profile of Job Growth Rates
October 1984 to August 1989

The Area	
Average 58 months	4.6%
High, December 1984	6.8%
Low, August 1984	3.1%
August 1988	3.3%
Current month	3.1%
The Suburbs	
Average 58 months	5.7%
High, January 1985	8.4%
Low, August 1989	3.8%
August 1988	4.1%
Current month	3.8%
The District	
Average 58 months	2.4%
High, October 1984	4.4%
Low, January 1987	0.7%
August 1988	1.6%
Current month	1.6%

PAY PROFILE:

D.C. Number One In Average Pay—For The Second Consecutive Year

The average annual pay of all workers covered nationwide by State and Federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs was $21,871 in 1988, a 4.9 percent increase over 1987.

The District of Columbia led the nation, as in 1987, with average annual pay of $30,254. Alaska was second with average annual pay of $28,033, followed by New York ($26,347), Connecticut ($26,244), and New Jersey ($25,748). South Dakota had the lowest average annual pay ($15,424), preceded by North Dakota ($16,508) and Mississippi ($16,522). Our neighboring states—Maryland and Virginia—posted average annual pays of $22,500 and $21,052, respectively.

As in previous years, the highest percentage increase in average annual pay for 1988 generally were in states located along the East Coast from Maine to Virginia. New Jersey led the nation with an increase of 8.0 percent, followed by Connecticut (7.9 percent) and Massachusetts (7.4 percent). Rhode Island and Hawaii ranked fourth with an increase of 7.1 percent each. The District of Columbia ranked eighth with a 6.2 percent increase. Alaska posted the smallest increase with a 0.1 percent change in annual pay. Wyoming had the next lowest with 1.5 percent, followed by North Dakota (2.2) percent) and Oklahoma (2.6 percent). For the first time since 1984, there were no decreases in statewide average annual pay from the previous year.

In the District, the private sector continued to be primarily responsible for the continued growth in average annual pay. In 1988, the private sector registered a 7.6 percent increase rising from $25,857 to $27,817. The largest over-the-year gain was in construction—13.3 percent. The average construction worker earned $24,679 in 1987 and $27,921 in 1988. Wholesale trade was second with an 8.8 percent increase with average pay rising from $32,263 to $35,103. This was followed by transportation, communications and public utilities up 8.4 percent from $37,150 to $40,265. Services reported a 7.3 percent over-the-year gain in pay and Finance, insurance and real estate a 7.1 percent. Retail trade with only a 5.3 percent increase was the only private sector industry which recorded a pay increase less than the city-wide average of 6.2 percent.

As has been the case in resent years, the government with a 4.9 percent rise in pay failed to match the increase of 7.6 percent in the private sector. As a result the gap between the average pay in the public sector and the private sector closed from $6,261 in 1987 to $5,873 in 1988.

Annual pay data are compiled from reports submitted by employers under UI programs for 104 million full-time and part-time workers. Average annual pay is computed by dividing total annual payrolls of employees covered by UI programs by average monthly employment for these employees.

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Average Annual Pay and Percent Change For All Covered Workers[1/] District of Columbia 1987 & 1988

Sector/Industry	Average Annual Pay		Percent Change
	1987	1988[2]	1987-88[3/]
All Covered Workers	$28,477	$30,254	6.2
Private Sector[4/]	25,857	27,817	7.6
Mining	59,933	63,906	6.6
Construction	24,679	27,971	13.3
Manufacturing	34,212	36,910	7.9
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	37,150	40,265	8.4
Wholesale Trade	32,262	35,103	8.8
Retail Trade	12,898	13,580	5.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	30,604	32,775	7.1
Services	26,545	28,491	7.3
Public Sector (Gov.)	32,118	33,690	4.9

1/ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

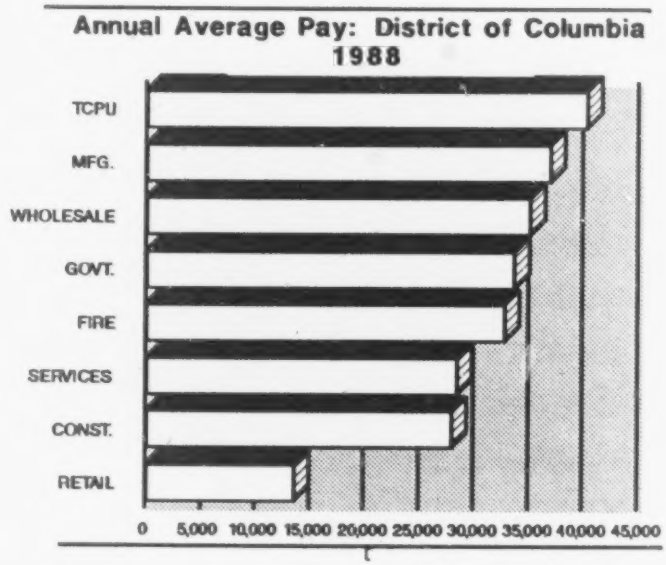
2/ Data are preliminary.

3/ Percent changes were computed from unrounded average annual pay data and may differ from data rounded to the nearest dollar.

4/ Includes data for industries in addition to those shown separately.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Percent change in average annual pay from 1987 to 1988 by state



Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In July 1989, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 257 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's jobless rate declined almost half of a percentage point (0.4 percent) between June and July dropping from 3.0 percent to 2.6 percent. This was the eleventh lowest of all 257 areas reporting. A year ago, the rate was 2.9 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 2.6 percent was the lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington posted a July rate of 3.0 percent down from 3.6 percent recorded in June. A year ago, the Richmond-Petersburg rate was 3.1 percent. The Boston Area rate was up from 3.4 percent in June to 4.0 percent in July. A year ago, Boston's rate was 3.1 percent. The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 4.3 percent jobless rate in July down from 4.8 percent in June. A year ago, Baltimore's rate was 4.9 percent.

Of the 257 metropolitan areas for which July data are available, 43 had over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more, and 27 had increases of at least that magnitude. Seventy areas had rates below 4 percent, while 28 had rates of 8 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

MSA	July	
	1989*	1988
1. Washington, D.C.	**2.6**	**2.9**
2. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.0	3.1
3. Indianapolis, IN	3.3	3.9
4. Nashville, TN	3.4	4.9
5. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.6	3.3
6. Milwaukee, WI	3.7	3.5
7. Salt Lake City, UT	3.7	4.7
8. Memphis, TN	4.0	5.2
9. Boston, MA	4.0	3.1
10. San Francisco, CA	4.0	4.2
11. Philadelphia, PA	4.1	4.5
12. Cincinnati, OH	4.2	4.8
13. Portland, OR	4.3	5.1
14. Columbus, OH	4.3	4.3
15. Cleveland, OH	4.3	4.7
16. Baltimore, MD	4.3	4.9
17. Kansas City, MO	4.4	5.7
18. Seattle, WA	4.5	5.1
19. Oklahoma City, OK	4.5	5.7
20. Louisville, KY	4.5	6.0
21. Pittsburgh, PA	4.6	5.8
22. Dayton, OH	4.7	4.5
23. Atlanta, GA	4.7	4.8
24. Denver, CO	4.7	5.1
25. Newark, NJ	4.8	4.4
26. San Diego, CA	4.8	4.9
27. Phoenix, AR	4.8	5.3
28. Chicago, IL	4.9	5.6
29. Oakland, CA	5.0	5.2
30. New York, NY	5.0	4.6
31. St. Louis, MO	5.1	5.7
32. Sacramento, CA	5.4	5.7
33. Los Angeles, CA	5.5	5.6
34. Buffalo, NY	5.7	4.8
35. Jackson, MS	5.7	6.4
36. Birmingham, AL	6.1	6.1
37. Dallas, TX	6.2	5.3
38. Houston, TX	6.5	6.3
39. Miami, FL	6.5	5.3
40. Montgomery, AL	7.1	4.5
41. Detroit, MI	7.5	8.5
42. New Orleans, LA	8.7	9.2

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a July preliminary unemployment rate of 4.9 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twenty-fourth highest jobless rate in the country. This was one notch below June's standing. Maryland's rate at 3.9 percent was also down considerably from the 4.3 percent registered in June. Virginia's jobless rate at 3.2 percent was also down considerably from the 3.6 percent recorded in June. Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-seventh and thirty-fifth, respectively, in the standings of the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, the rates in Maryland and Virginia were 4.6 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively.

Ten states reported over-the-year declines of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate. The largest declines were in West Virginia (2.8 percentage points), Kentucky (2.0 points), and New Mexico (1.6 points). There were over-the-year increases of 0.5 percentage point or more in the District of Columbia and 11 states. Delaware and Vermont experienced the greatest increases (both 1.6 percentage points), followed by Massachusetts (1.0 point).

July unemployment rates were below 4 percent in 15 states. States with the lowest rates were Hawaii (2.4 percent) and New Hampshire and Virginia (both 3.2 percent). Two states had rates higher than 8 percent—Louisiana (9.7 percent) and Mississippi (8.3 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a July preliminary rate of 4.9 percent) had the sixth lowest jobless rate. This was identical to the position held in June. In July, the average unemployment of all 26 cities was 6.6 percent, same as in June. A year ago, the average rate was 6.7 percent. There were ten cities with rates at 6 percent or below. The District of Columbia at 4.9 percent was in this grouping.

Only one city, Detroit, posted a double digit jobless rate in July. Detroit's rate at 11.6 percent was down from 11.8 percent recorded last month. Five other cities posted rates at 8.0 percent and above—New Orleans (9.4 percent), Newark (9.2 percent), Birmingham (8.6 percent), Buffalo (8.1 percent) and Miami (8.0 percent). The lowest rates were in Salt Lake City (3.8 percent), Columbus (4.4 percent), Pittsburgh (4.5 percent), Boston (4.7 percent), and Milwaukee (4.8 percent).

Of the 26 selected central cities, fourteen reported over-the-year declines, with the largest being recorded by Gary (1.7 percent). Dayton posted a decline of 1.5 percent, while three other cities—Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Detroit registered decreases of 1.3 percent each. Only one city, Buffalo, had an increase in excess of a half percentage point.

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Unemployment rates by state, July 1989

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities*

	July	
	1989*	1988
1. Salt Lake City, UT	3.8	4.9
2. Columbus, OH	4.4	4.3
3. Pittsburgh, PA	4.5	5.8
4. Boston, MA	4.7	3.9
5. Milwaukee, WI	4.8	4.5
6. District of Columbia	**4.9**	**4.2**
7. San Francisco, CA	5.0	5.2
8. Philadelphia, PA	5.2	6.1
9. New York, NY	5.3	4.9
10. Cincinnati, OH	5.4	6.0
11. Los Angeles, CA	6.2	6.3
12. Chicago, IL	6.5	7.2
13. Baltimore, MD	6.5	7.8
14. Atlanta, GA	6.7	6.9
15. Cleveland, OH	6.7	7.4
16. Gary, IN	6.7	8.4
17. Houston, TX	6.9	6.7
18. Dallas, TX	7.2	6.2
19. Dayton, OH	7.3	6.8
20. St. Louis, MO	7.3	8.0
21. Miami, FL	8.0	6.5
22. Buffalo, NY	8.1	6.8
23. Birmingham, AL	8.6	8.8
24. Newark, NJ	9.2	8.7
25. New Orleans, LA	9.4	9.9
26. Detroit, MI	11.6	12.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

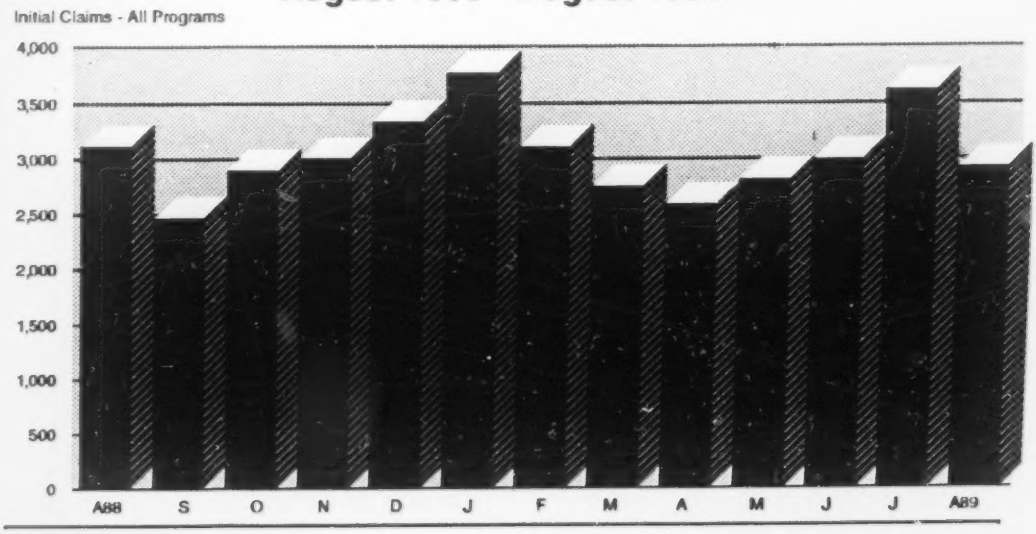
Unemployment Insurance Activities August 1989

August 1989 claims for unemployment compensation benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 2,920—slightly over 19 percent below last month and nearly 6 percent below August of last year. The drop from July was expected, as this July was (and usually is each year) the seasonal high. This high point is caused by a filing surge associated with the quarterly change-of-base period for determining monetary eligibility. The phenomenon of a decrease in initial claims usually occurs from the first to the second month in each quarter. The most pronounced change to date this year occurred in the first quarter, as there was a reversal of the expected downward trend in the second quarter between April and May.

The number of idle weeks compensated came to 37,780 in August, and represented a 14 percent increase from last month—nearly unchanged from last year. An increase in compensated workload in August was the peak for this year to date. The $7.5 million in gross outlay for benefits in August was also a year-to-date peak.

The average weekly benefit amount has risen steadily this year—from $189 in January to $200 in July, and a slight drop to $199 in August. The outlay for compensation for January-August 1989 was $55.0 million. Weeks compensated through August 1989 totaled 279,600 compared to 274,000 last year (a 2 percent rise)—accounting principally for the increase in the total outlay.

District of Columbia
Initial Unemployment Compensation Claims
August 1988 - August 1989



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
August 1989

	Aug. 1989	July 1989	Aug. 1988	% Change From July 1989	% Change From Aug. 1988
State UI Program a/					
Initial Claims Taken	2,794	3,456	2,957	-19.2	-5.5
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	36,340	32,987	37,145	+10.2	-2.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	34,614	30,277	35,164	+14.3	-1.6
Total Benefits Paid	$6 790,980	$5,959,207	$6,471,039	+14.0	+4.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$196.19	$196.82	$184.02	-0.3	+6.6
Number of First Payments	1,832	1,908	1,875	-4.0	-2.3
Number of Final Payments	1,028	932	905	+10.3	+13.6
Total Beneficiaries	9,057	8,806	8,960	+2.9	+1.1
Federal Program b/					
Initial Claims Taken	93	127	126	-26.8	-26.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,468	2,240	2,379	+10.2	+3.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,878	2,646	2,239	+8.8	+28.5
Total Benefits Paid	$680,886	$631,616	$474,808	+7.8	+43.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$236.58	$238.71	$212.06	-0.9	+11.6
Number of First Payments	135	106	107	+27.4	+26.2
Number of Final Payments	87	82	57	+6.1	+52.6
Total Beneficiaries	725	726	570	-0.1	+27.2
Ex-Servicepersons Program c/					
Initial Claims Taken	34	35	33	-2.9	+3.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	328	283	510	+15.9	-35.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	282	233	429	+21.0	-34.3
Total Benefits Paid	$58,959	$49,132	$83,652	+20.0	-29.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$209.07	$210.87	$194.99	-0.9	-7.2
Number of First Payments	32	22	30	+45.5	+6.7
Number of Final Payments	18	16	32	+12.5	-43.8
Total Beneficiaries	86	76	121	+13.2	-28.9
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	2,921	3,618	3,116	-19.3	-6.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	39,136	35,510	40,034	+10.2	-2.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	37,774	33,156	37,832	+13.9	-0.2
Total Benefits Paid	$7,530,825	$6,639,955	$7,029,499	+13.4	+7.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$199.37	$200.26	$185.81	-0.4	+7.3
Number of First Payments	1,999	2,036	2,012	-1.8	-0.6
Number of Final Payments	1,133	1,030	994	+10.0	+14.0
Total Beneficiaries	9,868	9,608	9,651	+2.7	+2.2

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

c. No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for August 1989 increased $14.82. Average Weekly Hours increased .5 hour, as Average Hourly Earnings rose 22 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products had an increase in Weekly Earnings of $64.01. Weekly Hours were up 1.2 hours and Hourly Earnings rose $1.03 all due to overtime. Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies showed a substantial increase in Weekly Hours of 2.4 hours because of overtime being worked.

In the Non—Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products had a decrease in Weekly Earnings of $16.64 and a decrease of 2.2 hours in Weekly Hours worked due to a shorter scheduled workweek. Other Non Durable Goods reflect a rise in Weekly Earnings of $11.54 and Hourly Earnings of 41 cents. The rise was caused by an increase in the proportion of higher paid employees.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
August 1989

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Aug. 1989	July 1989	Aug. 1988	Aug. 1989	July 1989	Aug. 1988	Aug. 1989	July 1989	Aug. 1988
Total Manufacturing	490.40	475.58	448.48	40.0	39.5	39.9	12.26	12.04	11.24
Durable Goods	522.97	496.93	446.01	43.8	42.4	41.8	11.94	11.72	10.67
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	606.36	542.35	531.06	48.9	47.7	47.8	12.40	11.37	11.11
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	562.93	527.52	451.21	44.5	41.9	39.1	12.65	12.59	11.54
Other Durable Goods	483.61	472.79	423.07	42.2	41.4	41.6	11.46	11.42	10.17
Non-Durable Goods	461.53	455.58	449.61	36.6	36.8	38.2	12.61	12.38	11.77
Food & Kindred Products	441.66	458.30	458.68	41.2	43.4	41.1	10.72	10.56	11.16
Printing & Publishing	479.89	473.31	472.31	34.8	34.7	36.5	13.79	13.64	12.94
Other Non-Durable Goods	399.36	387.82	361.63	41.6	42.2	43.0	9.60	9.19	8.41

Total Production Workers	Aug. '89	July '89	Aug. '88
	40,000	40,900	43,100

Note: Data reflects Revision to 1988 Benchmark.

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